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HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Around the Towns

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3 TEXT BODY:

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4 ***Craft and learn about healthy watersheds with***

5 **WCNRCD**

6 BRATTLEBORO — Join Windham County Natural  
7 Resources Conservation District (WCNRCD) and Bobbin & Skein,  
8 51 Main St., on Thursday, Dec. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m., for hands-on  
9 crafting workshop themed around healthy watersheds.

10 Starting at 5 p.m., a representative from WCNRCD will  
11 talk about the importance of healthy waterways and positive  
12 impacts everyone can have on local watersheds. After this  
13 overview, participants will create water-themed crafts at three  
14 different stations. Crafting stations will be able to accommodate  
15 pre-kindergarten through adult crafters.

16 RSVP at [bit.ly/844-waterways](https://bit.ly/844-waterways). For questions about  
17 accessibility, email [sullivan.wcnrcd@gmail.com](mailto:sullivan.wcnrcd@gmail.com), and connect  
18 with Windham County NRCD at [windhamcountynrcd.org](http://windhamcountynrcd.org).

19 ***'Soups-giving' event at Moose Family Center***

20 BELLOWS FALLS — To share their love of community,  
21 organizers Deborah Wright and Jennifer McCormack Wirta have  
22 put together “Soups-giving,” an event they say is focused on  
23 “warming hearts, minds, and tummies; sharing soup from those  
24 who can, and wish to make it, with those who cannot, but may  
25 need it most.”

26 This event takes place on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 5 to 7  
27 p.m. at the Loyal Order of Moose Family Center, 59 Westminster  
28 St. Bring a soup to share, if you are able, and a bowl and spoon.  
29 Extra bowls and utensils will be provided as well.

30 “Bring your appetite and your friendship and love for  
31 community,” Wright and Wirta said in a news release. “Soup  
32 warms the body and the spirit! This is our first — hopefully of  
33 many — gatherings of hearts and minds around delicious bowls  
34 of soup.”

35 They are also collecting donations, both financial and  
36 nonperishable food items, to benefit Our Place. Boxes for both  
37 will be available inside and outside the Moose Dining Hall. This  
38 event will coincide with the Bellows Falls Parade of Lights starting  
39 at 5 p.m. Attendants can drop off donations, then watch the  
40 Parade of Lights and come back in to warm up with soup and  
41 company. There will be beverages as well.

42           ***Cookie sale at Newfane Church***

43           NEWFANE — Newfane Congregational Church's annual

44           Cookie Sale is back, Saturday, Dec. 13, from 10 a.m. to noon.

45           The whole community is invited to join this holiday tradition.

46           Every year, the Ladies Aid transforms the church's

47           Fellowship Hall into a wonderland of homemade treats and

48           plates of hand-decorated cookies, old-fashioned family favorites,

49           and creative new bites perfect for gifting, entertaining, or simply

50           enjoying with a mug of something warm.

51           Cookies will be sold by the pound, making it easy to

52           mix, match, and build the perfect holiday assortment. Longtime

53           locals know: Arrive early for the best selection. This festive

54           fundraiser supports the ongoing work of the Ladies Aid of

55           Newfane Congregational Church, whose generosity helps sustain

56           many of the church's community-minded ministries throughout

57           the year.

58           ***Craft Fair in West Halifax***

59           WEST HALIFAX — On Saturday, Dec. 13, there will be a

60           Holiday Craft Fair at the Halifax School, 246 Branch Rd., from 9

61           a.m. until 2 p.m.

62           The fair will provide an opportunity to shop locally for

63           gifts, wooden crafts, ornaments, baked goods, seasonal greenery,

64           and more. Lunch will be available. For more information, contact

65           Tina at [TBlaiser2@gmail.com](mailto:TBlaiser2@gmail.com).

66           ***Downtown Wilmington lights up Dec. 13***

67           WILMINGTON — Come welcome winter at "Lights in

68           the Park!" Saturday, Dec. 13, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Buzzy

69           Towne Park in downtown Wilmington, across from 19 South

70           Main St.

71           There will be a lantern walk, s'mores, hot chocolate, and

72           a small fire, stargazing with telescopes on this peak asteroid-

73           watching night, and glow-in-the-dark games. Start your afternoon

74           with an astronomer discussion at Pettee Memorial Library at 3:15

75 to prepare for watching the night sky. For more information, visit  
76 [bit.ly/844-lights](https://bit.ly/844-lights).

77 **Marlboro Alliance expands its emergency  
78 funds**

79 MARLBORO — The Marlboro Alliance has expanded its  
80 Emergency Fund categories to help Marlboro residents with more  
81 than emergencies such as fire or flood. Residents may apply for  
82 up to \$200 per month to help meet basic needs such as food,  
83 prescriptions, paying rent or mortgage, and utility bills.

84 They will help residents as long as there is a need or as  
85 long as funds last. Residents will need to apply monthly either by  
86 filling out a form at [bit.ly/844-funds](https://bit.ly/844-funds), emailing  
87 [marlboroalliance@gmail.com](mailto:marlboroalliance@gmail.com) with “Emergency Fund Request” in  
88 the subject line, or calling Marlboro Cares at 802-258-3030.

89 They also have Emergency Funds under the umbrella of  
90 the Marlboro Alliance for one-time emergency events with a cap  
91 of \$500 per event. Examples of emergency events include (but  
92 are not exclusive to): house fires, natural disasters, or medical or  
93 family crises. Requests for one-time emergency funds should be  
94 directed to [marlboroalliance@gmail.com](mailto:marlboroalliance@gmail.com) with “Emergency Fund  
95 Request” in the subject line.

96 The Emergency Committee will make a determination on  
97 the request based on the event and available monies. Applicants'  
98 names and personal information will remain confidential within  
99 the Emergency Response Committee.

100 **Food drop in Putney**

101 PUTNEY — The year-end holiday schedule will have the  
102 next Putney food drop on Tuesday, Dec. 23, from 9 to 9:45 a.m.  
103 The Vermont Food Bank and Putney Foodshelf co-sponsor this  
104 free service to all, offering a selection of produce and assorted  
105 foods.

106 Putney Food Drop is located at 78 River Road, Putney.  
107 More details, including a map, can be found at  
108 [putneyfoodshelf.org/food-drop](https://putneyfoodshelf.org/food-drop).

109                   **Rec. Dept. presents Winter Mini Camp**

110                   BRATTLEBORO — The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks

111                   Department will offer a Winter Mini Camp from 8:30 a.m. to  
112                   1:30 p.m., Dec. 26, 29, and 30, and Jan. 2.

113                   Recreation & Parks Staff will lead a morning of games,  
114                   sports, activities, arts, crafts, and more. A snack will be provided,  
115                   but participants should bring a drink and lunch. Pre-registration is  
116                   required by Saturday, Dec. 20, and no over-the-phone registration  
117                   will be accepted.

118                   This program will take place at the Gibson-Aiken Center  
119                   and is for children 5–11 years old. They require a minimum of six  
120                   participants to run the program, with a maximum of 20 kids. The  
121                   fee for Brattleboro residents is \$15 per day, and \$18 per day for  
122                   non-Brattleboro residents. Note that on Monday, Dec. 29,  
123                   campers will meet at the Nelson Withington Skating Facility.  
124                   Bring skates (if you have them) a sled, and warm clothes.

125                   For more information, call the Gibson-Aiken Office at  
126                   802-254-5808 Monday–Friday 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30  
127                   p.m., and follow the Brattleboro Recreation & Parks Department  
128                   on Facebook or Instagram.

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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